

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1 and 13 to 20 as indicated in the Listing of Claims.

Please cancel claims 11 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated marine actinomycete having an obligate requirement of sodium for growth, wherein the marine actinomycete is a strain of *Salinospora* comprising an adenosine at position 207 of a 16S ~~RNA~~ rRNA, a cytidine at position 366 of the 16S rRNA, a uridine at position 467 of the 16S rRNA, and a uridine at position 468 of the ~~18S~~ 16S rRNA.
2. (Withdrawn): A method for producing a biomolecule, comprising culturing a marine actinomycete in a growth media, wherein the marine actinomycete is a member of a strain with an obligate requirement of sodium for growth and characteristic 16s rRNA sequences,
collecting the marine actinomycete or the growth media containing the biomolecules; and
extracting biomolecules from the marine actinomycete or the growth media, thereby producing the biomolecule.
3. (Withdrawn): The method as in claim 2, wherein the biomolecule is a pharmaceutical agent.
4. (Withdrawn): The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antibiotic agent.
5. (Withdrawn): The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antifungal agent.

6. (Withdrawn): The method as in claim 3, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an anti-cancer agent.

7. (Withdrawn): The method as in claim 2, wherein the biomolecule is a product of a gene from heterologous organism.

8. (Withdrawn): A method for drug discovery comprising growth of a strain of actinomycete with an obligate requirement of seawater for growth and characteristic 16S rRNA sequences, collection of the actinomycete or growth media, and analysis of actinomycete or growth media for pharmacological activity.

9. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for antibacterial activity.

10. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 8, wherein the analysis comprises an assay for anti-viral activity.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, further comprising an ~~adenosine~~ guanidine at position 1456 of the 16S rRNA.

14. (Currently Amended): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence of ~~GenBank accession number AY040622~~ SEQ ID NO:5.

15. (Currently Amended): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence of ~~GenBank accession number AY040619~~ SEQ ID NO:3.

16. (Currently Amended): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide sequence of ~~GenBank accession number AY040620~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

17. (Currently Amended): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, wherein the marine actinomycete is a obtained from sediment ~~sediment-derived actinomycete~~.

18. (Currently Amended): A method for producing a biomolecule, comprising
culturing a marine actinomycete of claim 1 in a growth media, wherein the
biomolecule is produced by the marine actinomycete;
collecting the marine actinomycete or the growth media containing the
~~biomolecules~~ biomolecule; and
extracting ~~biomolecules~~ the biomolecule from the marine actinomycete or
the growth media, thereby producing the biomolecule.

19. (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~13~~ 18, wherein the ~~biomolecules~~
biomolecule is salinosporamide A.

20. (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~13~~ 18, wherein the growth media
comprises sodium at a concentration of 450 mM.

21. (New): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide
sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

22. (New): The isolated marine actinomycete of claim 1, comprising the nucleotide
sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.